Flood Relief to West Bengal

*68. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA :
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the recent severe flood situation in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Central Government have made any study to assess the extent of damages caused thereby;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the details of the assistance extended by the Union Goven-ment to the State Government; and

(d) what was the amount act ually sought for by the State Govera -ment?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G.S. DHILLON):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Central Team was deputed to West Bengal to assess the extent of damages and need for Central assistance. The Team visited West Bengal from 20th to 23rd October, 1986, The report of the Team has not yet been finalised.

(d) The State Government has sought Central assistance of Rs. 272. 28 crores for relief and repairs/ restoration works.

Procurement prices of paddy and cereals

*69. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI KALPNATH RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRI-CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether- it is a fact that the procurement prices of paddy, wheat and cereals were increased recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; nnd

(c) whether the prices of rice and creeals of different varieties sold through fair price shops are likely to be increased as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON) : (a) and (b) The announcement of the increase in the pro-curement price of paddy (common) from Rs. 142 to Rs. 146 per quintal and that of kharif coarse cereals, viz., jowar, bajra, maize and ragi, from Rs. 130 to Rs. 132 per quintal was made in August, 1986. These price increases are effective for 1986-87 marketing season as compared to 1985-86. However, the procurement price of wheat was raised in January, 1986 from Rs. 157 in 1985-86 to Rs. 162 per quintal for 1986-87 marketing season.

(C) The price at which rice is issued to the State Governments and Union Territory Administration from the Central Pool was raised by Rs. 8.00 per quintal with effect from 1-10-1986: The Central issue price of wheat was fixed Rs. 190 per quintal on U2-1986 and continues to be same. The prices in the Fair price Shops afe fixed by the State Govenments/ Union Territory Administrations themselves and imclude their distribution costs are subsides, if and and vary from State to State.

Draft development plan for National Capital Region

*70. SHRI KALPNATH RAI : SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased |to state :

(a) whether the National Capital Region Planning Board has approved the National Capital Region draft development Plan;